## **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Replace the paragraph on page 8, lines 8-13, with the following:

--FIG. 2 illustrates the delivery system with the outer member 40 coaxially positioned about the inner member 20. The outer member is slidably mounted about the inner member to permit relative axial movement between them. As shown in FIG. 2, the catheter 10 may also include a loading funnel 42 removably attached to a distal end 44 of the outer member. The loading funnel 42 is sized and shaped to assist with radial compression of a self-expanding stent <u>90</u> as the stent <u>90</u> is loaded onto the delivery system, as shown in FIG. 2.--